(b) Does not arise.

(c) The rates of travelling allowance were increased *w. e. f.* 1.10.1997 and no further increase is considered necessary at this stage.

Opening of SBI branch in Jangla, Shimla

†2246. SHRI ANIL SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE **be** pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open the branch of the S.B.I, at Jangla in the district of Shimla so that the retired employees, farmers and business persons could reap benefit thereof;

(b) whether the people of five Panchayats area would be benefited in case the branch of State Bank of India is opened in Jangla;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIANANDRAO VITHOBAADSUL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Growth in Power and Telecom Sector

2247. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an analysis has revealed that power and telecom sectors have not registered growth;

(b) if so the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIANANDRAO VITHOBAADSUL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.